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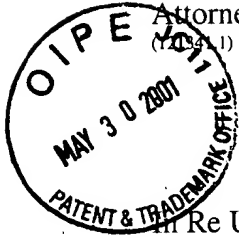
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JUN 5 2001

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT



Attorney Docket No. 3863 P 003

Technology Center 2100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Utility Patent Application Of:  
Thomas H. Tapio

Application No. 09/678,428

Filed: October 2, 2000

For: System and Method For Sharing of Expert Knowledge

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)  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 2177  
)  
) Examiner:  
)  
)

Attn: Box Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C., 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified Application. Applicant is a small entity. A Statement was already filed. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in these fees to Deposit Account No. 23-0280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

The fee for the Amendment has been calculated as shown below:

|   |                                  |                                    |               | Small Entity |                | Other Than Small Entity |                |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
|   | Claims Remaining After Amendment | Highest Number Previously Paid For | Present Extra | Rate         | Additional Fee | Rate                    | Additional Fee |
| Total   | 37                               | - 20                               | = 17          | x \$ 9       | \$153          | x \$ 18                 | \$*            |
| Independent                                     | 7                                | - 3                                | = 4           | x \$ 40      | \$160          | x \$ 80                 | \$*            |
| First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims |                                  |                                    |               | x \$135      | \$0            | x \$270                 | \$0            |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE                            |                                  |                                    |               |              |                | \$313.00                |                |

X Check No. 8498 in the amount of \$313.00 is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

X Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 for the presentation of extra Claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 25, 2001

By: James P. Muraff  
James P. Muraff, Reg. No. 39,785  
Customer No. 26963  
Wallenstein & Wagner, Ltd.  
311 South Wacker Drive, 53rd Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6630  
312.554.3300

Attorneys for Applicant

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as U.S. first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Fee Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 25, 2001.

Heather M. Pishko  
Heather M. Pishko (121341.1)

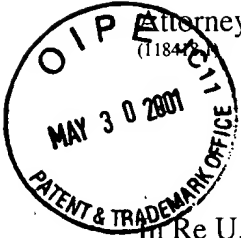
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Page 2



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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*H/A*  
*A. Kaper*  
*7/18/02*

Attorney Docket No. 3863 P 003

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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For: System and Method For Sharing of Expert Knowledge

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Group Art Unit: 2177

Examiner:

Attn: Box Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C., 20231**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit this Preliminary Amendment.

**AMENDMENTS**

Please amend the present application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please add the following Claims:

6. A method of creating a learning software application for identifying a solution for a topic from a database of topical knowledge, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of input fields for receiving input data, the input data comprising interface parameters, topics, questions, answers, rules, and solutions;

inputting at least one interface parameter into a first input field to define parameters associated with an interface screen;

inputting at least one topic into a second input field, wherein the at least one topic is linked to the at least one interface screen;

inputting a first question into a third field, wherein the first question corresponds to the at least one topic;

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02 FC:203160.00 CP  
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